

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 NASSAU 01991 241849Z

45

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 IO-10 AID-05 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /084 W

----- 009797

R 241727Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7558

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NASSAU 1991

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, BF

SUBJ: AFL-CIO INTERFERENCE CHARGED IN BAHAMAS ELECTRICAL  
WORKERS STRIKE

1. THE FOUR-DAY STRIKE BY BAHAMAS ELECTRICAL WORKERS, WHICH ENDED NOVEMBER 22, WAS MARKED BY MINOR VIOLENCE, SABOTAGE ATTEMPTS AT NASSAU'S POWER STATION AND CHARGES OF INTERFERENCE BY THE DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA AFL-CIO. MOST ISSUES IN THE STRIKE, WHICH STARTED NOVEMBER 18 AS A ONE-DAY SHOW OF STRENGTH, HAVE ALREADY BEEN RESOLVED IN THE COURSE OF NEGOTIATIONS CHAIRED BY MINISTER OF LABOR CLIFFORD DARLING, AND, WITH WORKERS BACK ON THE JOB, THE PROSPECTS FOR AN EARLY SETTLEMENT SEEM BRIGHT. THE ALLEGED INTERFERENCE ON THE PART OF THE AFL-CIO, HOWEVER, MAY LEAVE A RESIDUE OF RESENTMENT AMONG GCOB LEADERS AND IS INDICATIVE OF THE SKITTISHNESS WITH WHICH THEY VIEW THE POTENTIALLY HARMFUL EFFECTS OF LABOR UNREST ON TOURISM AND INVESTOR CONFIDENCE.

2. ACCORDING TO REPORTS IN THE NOVEMBER 21 NASSAU PRESS, THE DADE COUNTY FEDERATION OF LABOR HAS RESPONDED TO AN AUGUST 15, 1975 APPEAL FOR SUPPORT FROM THE STRIKING ENGINEERING AND GENERAL UNION AND THE BAHAMAS WORKERS' COUNCIL WITH A RECOMMENDATION THAT ITS MIAMI AREA MEMBERS BOYCOTT BAHAMIAN TOURISM "UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE GOVERNMENT AND THE BAHAMAS  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 NASSAU 01991 241849Z

ELECTRICITY CORPORATION BARGAIN FAIRLY WITH THE BAHAMAS WORK-

ERS' COUNCIL." ON NOV 20, THE REPORTING OFFICER WAS TOLD BY HAROLD MUNNINGS, PERMANENT SECRETARY IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOR THAT MINISTER DARLING HAD RECEIVED "CONTEMPTUOUS" LETTERS FROM THE DADE AFL-CIO CHARGING UNFAIR LABOR PRACTICES AND THREATENING A NATION-WIDE AFL-CIO BOYCOTT OF BAHAMIAN TOURISM AS WELL AS A BOYCOTT OF MIAMI-BASED BODE EXPORT CORPORATION, A PRIME SHIPPING AGENT TO THE BAHAMAS. THE LETTERS, ACCORDING TO MUNNINGS, WERE AN OUTGROWTH OF THE LOBBYING EFFORTS OF BWC CHAIRMAN DUDLEY WILLIAMS IN MIAMI OCTOBER 13 AND A WILLINGNESS OF THE DADE FEDERATION TO "GO OFF THE DEEP END WITHOUT CHECKING THE FACTS." HE CLAIMED TO NOTICE A SLOWDOWN IN BODE DELIVERIES TO THE GCOB BUT ALLOWED AS HOW THIS MIGHT BE DUE TO ANY NUMBER OF FACTORS.

3. ASIDE FROM ANY EFFECT IT MIGHT HAVE ON THE ELECTRICAL STRIKE AND THE GENERAL SENSITIVITY OF LOCAL OFFICIALS TO "OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE" OF ANY SORT, GCOB UNEASINESS ABOUT AFL-CIO SUPPORT FOR BAHAMIAN LABOR IS PROBABLY ALSO A REFLECTION OF CONCERN ABOUT THE EFFECT OF SUCH SUPPORT ON TOURISM AND INVESTOR CONFIDENCE. MUNNINGS, FOR EXAMPLE, SEEMED CONCERNED ABOUT ANOTHER ONGOING NEGOTIATION BETWEEN HOTEL WORKERS AND EMPLOYERS AND SATISFIED THAT THERE WERE NOT ENOUGH FUNDS AVAILABLE TO THE HOTEL WORKERS TO SUPPORT EVEN A BRIEF STRIKE AGAINST ALL HOTELS. HE DID NOT, HOWEVER, PRECLUDE A DEMONSTRATION STRIKE AGAINST ONE OR TWO HOTELS "SUCH, FOR EXAMPLE, AS THE HOLIDAY INN AND FLAGLER." DAVID KNOWLES, CHAIRMAN OF THE HOTEL WORKERS' UNION, LATER TOLD THE REPORTING OFFICER THAT, WHILE A STRIKE COULD NOT BE ENTIRELY RULED OUT, A WORK SLOWDOWN DURING THE DECEMBER-JANUARY TOURIST PEAK SEEMED FAR MORE LIKELY.  
TAYLOR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INTERVENTION, ELECTRICAL INDUSTRY, LABOR STRIKES, LABOR UNIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 NOV 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** johnsorg  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975NASSAU01991  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750409-0154  
**From:** NASSAU  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19751116/aaaaanmz.tel  
**Line Count:** 92  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** johnsorg  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:** ANOMALY  
**Review Date:** 05 SEP 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <05 SEP 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <18 DEC 2003 by johnsorg>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** AFL-CIO INTERFERENCE CHARGED IN BAHAMAS ELECTRICAL WORKERS STRIKE  
**TAGS:** ELAB, BF, US, AFL-CIO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006